

Whalesong

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Volume 21, Issue 4

University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau Campus

December 1, 1999

In Brief

KTOO-TV Internships

KTOO-TV has internships available for students interested in television production. The internships are paid positions, of \$7 an hour, with about 40 hours a week of job opportunity. During the Legislative Session from January to May, there is up to 3 internships available, as well as another opportunity to work for "Alaska Week."

Mount POW/MIA

Mount POW/MIA is now a reality in Alaska, thanks to a unanimous decision by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names. The Board, who voted unanimously to name a 4,314 foot peak "Mount POW/MIA," approved the proposal forwarded by the Chair of the Alaska Historical Commission, Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer, following the Commission's having adopted the name, also unanimously, after much favorable public testimony.

Alaska Sues

The State of Alaska filed suit against the federal government claiming title to submerged lands in Southeast Alaska. The suit, filed in U.S. Supreme Court, was prompted by the Park Service's closure of commercial fishing in Glacier Bay National Park but extends to other areas of Southeast as well.

Game Proposals

The Alaska Board of Game is accepting proposed changes to its regulations pertaining to hunting, trapping and the use of game in the Interior Region to be considered at the 2000 board meeting. Deadline for proposals is 5 p.m., December 13.

Important Dates

- Dec. 2 Surf Alaska Game Night, Free, 8-10p.m.
- Dec. 3 SAC pool tournament
- Dec. 4 Holiday Formal, SAC 9p.m., Dance to Fleet Street
- Dec. 5 Alaska Film Festival, SAC, best and worst!
- Dec. 6 Stress Break week begins
- Dec. 9 Alaska Scholars Dinner, Mourant Lake room
- Dec. 10 Last Whalesong of the semester

Hamilton speaks at NWSLC

UAA, UAF and UAS represent Alaska at conference

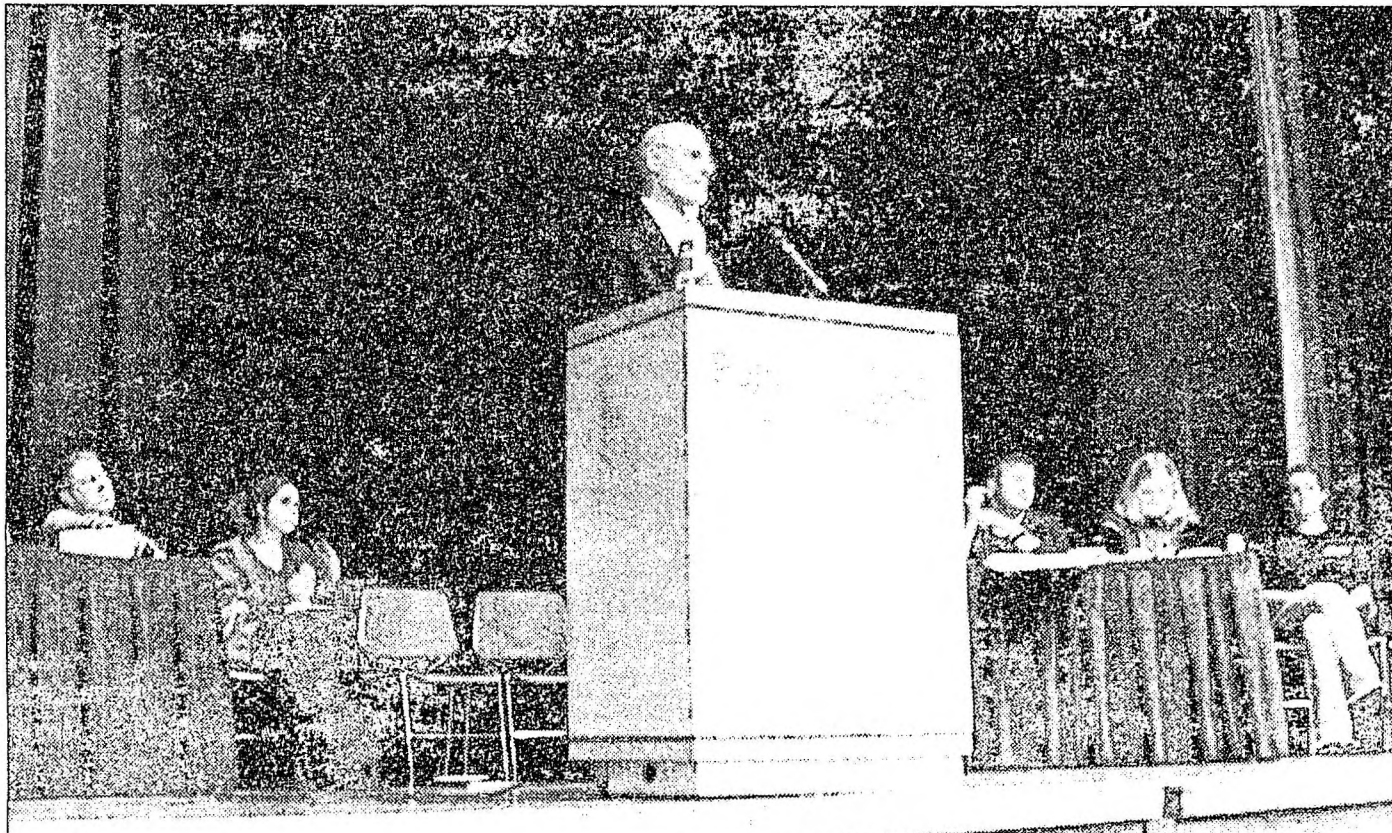
By Eric Morrison
Whalesong Editor

University of Alaska President Mark Hamilton got a standing ovation after he spoke to 600 plus students at the Northwest Student Leadership Conference. Nearly 30 U of A students attended the conference, which was held at Portland State University, from Nov. 19-21.

Students and speakers from all over the Northwest participated in this year's conference. Including students from California, Arizona, Alaska, Oregon, Washington and even a group of students from Africa. The speakers ranged from Oregon Senator Ron Wyden, to the retired Army Major General Hamilton.

Hamilton flew from Fairbanks on the morning of Nov. 20, gave a seminar on ethical leadership, gave his speech to everyone attending the conference, and then had dessert with all of the Alaskan student leaders representing U of A. "You get relatively few chances to overtly do something directly for students," Hamilton said. "I don't have the day to day opportunity to show my support to the students."

During his appearance at the NWSLC,



President Mark Hamilton is backed up on stage by Alaskan student leaders while he spoke at the NWSLC.

Hamilton showed and preached his sincerity and loyalty to the U of A student body. "The student leadership at the University of Alaska has a very strong voice and influence with me and the Board of Regents," he said, "If students want to be heard, they will be heard. There's no ifs, ands or buts."

"Unity Through Diversity," was the theme of the 1999 NWSLC, and it was clearly a success, with students of all different ages and races coming together to pool their knowledge regarding student

leadership. Many different campuses of the U of A were represented at this event, including students from UAF, UAA, UAS, as well as students from the branches from the three main campuses.

Student Regent Josh Horst of UAS said, "I was really happy with the quality of students that represented Alaska. Watching and listening to them interact with other student leaders from around the West, really showed the quality of students that the University of Alaska has to offer."

see NWSLC page 6

Giving new life to eagles

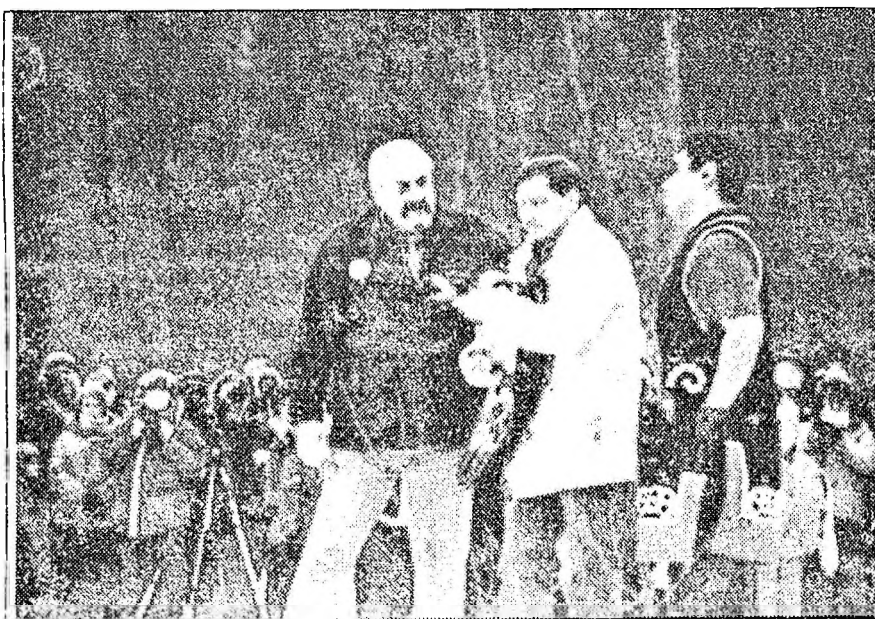
Six birds released back into wild at Haines festival

By Dave Perry
Whalesong Reporter

Two hundred plus people gathered on the banks of the Chilkat River to watch five immature bald eagles released into the wild. The event took more than an hour and a half, and there was a full show to go along with it. The gei-sun dancers of Haines did an hour of stories, dancing, and speeches about what it means for an eagle to be released back into the wild. One man even broke into tears while speaking about this event and it's personal significance. The eagle means a lot to the people of the land that surrounds the area and has been an important part of the culture for hundreds of years.

I arrived a bit late to the show and as a consequence had a poor place to stand and take pictures (also to do with me being short). I did manage to get some decent shots of the dancers and speakers, as well as the eagles being released.

Each of the eagles were released by Kerry Seifert and Dr. James R. Scott, and for each releasing a different member of the gei-sun volunteered. I'm not sure if they were aware at the time, but an eagle doesn't



One of the immature bald eagles before it is released back into it's natural environment.

appreciate being handled by people. Each of them walked away with a few scratches from the ordeal, and Scott even sustained a black eye.

I spoke with two of the men who released the eagles about their part in the event. Kerry Seifert assisted in the eagle releasing. "It's hard to put into words the great feeling you get when give a second chance to a creature so magnificent" were his feelings on his experience.

Dr. Scott, a veterinarian, was the key part in the eagle releasing. Thirty-eight

years ago a man brought an injured eagle into his clinic. Having no prior experience with eagles, he decided to fix the eagle up and later released into the wild. He did this for the next five years when he was asked by the Fish and Wildlife department to give a program on eagle treatment. They found he had none of the necessary permits (Scott also was unaware he needed these permits) to rehabilitate eagles. Fish and Wildlife figured since Scott had been doing this for some time, they'd just give the permits to him. Thirty-three years

later, he's still doing it. He now runs the Bird Treatment and Learning center, which rehabilitates eagles and other birds in hopes they will be released into the wild.

The event was truly spectacular, and every person there walked away with an experience most people will never get. To watch an eagle be given a second chance at life is truly remarkable. These magnificent birds are one of Alaska's true beauties, and hopefully with rehabilitation on the rise, they will be around for many future generations to enjoy.

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My dessert with the President

By Eric Morrison
Whalesong Editor

I had an experience on Saturday Nov. 20 that I took for granted at the beginning of the evening, and it was not until the end of the night that I realized the significance of the opportunity I'd been given. I was very fortunate to attend the Northwest Student Leadership Conference in Portland, Oregon, where I was able to represent the students of Alaska. However, the highlight of the conference for me was having dessert with University of Alaska President Mark Hamilton, and to be able to have a one on one conversation with him.

President Hamilton is not only a highly respected and effective leader for the U of A system, or only a retired U.S. Army Major General, or only an incredible speaker, he is all three plus a very personable and down to earth man. In his first year as the 12th president of the UA system he made his mark as a get down and dirty, anything for the students type of guy. He set up a scholarship program for the top 10 percent of Alaska high school students to urge them to continue their education in Alaska. Hamilton also got the legislature to increase state spending on the university system by about \$6 million. Not bad for the first year on the job. I'm excited just thinking about what he will do to benefit the university system and my fellow students in the near future.

Originally all of the Alaskan delegates were supposed to have dinner with President Hamilton following his speech, but due to 100 free pizzas delivered to the conference, we had to settle for dessert. I was very lucky to sit right next to him and to embark on a conversation that I never expected to have. I am fairly new to the university, Alaska and college for that matter, so originally I wasn't in awe of his

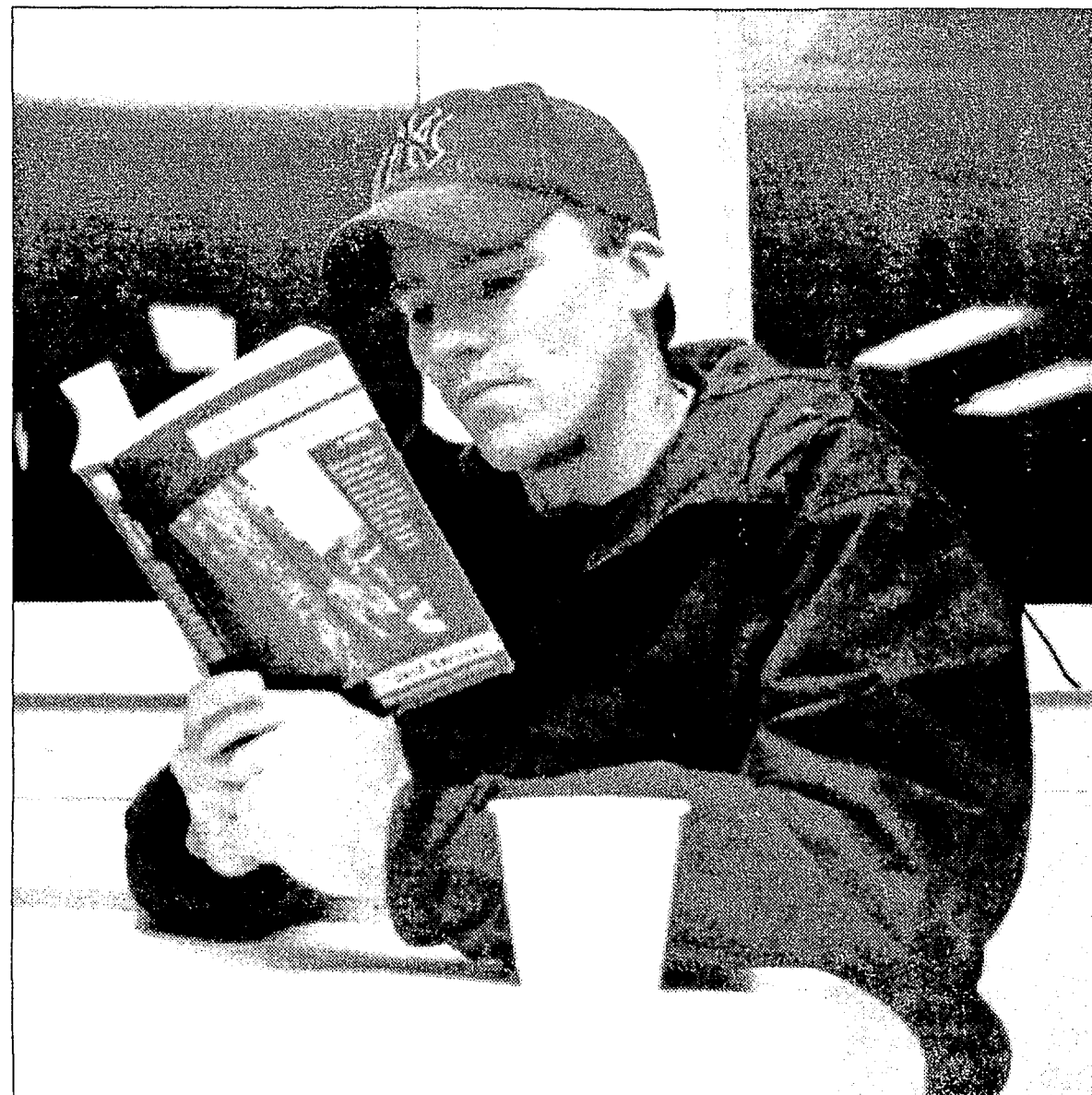


Photo by Dave Perry

When not representing Alaskan students, I sure do enjoy a good Kerouac novel.

presence. But when I saw how tired he was from flying down to Oregon that morning, giving a workshop at the conference, then a speech to the entire conference, I was amazed at his willingness to take the extra time to spend with us.

I kept the conversation to a minimum at the beginning of our dessert, because I could tell he needed a few minutes to relax,

plus I didn't want to make a fool out of myself in front of the highest official at the university. But then once we got comfortable with our surroundings and had a chance to relax from a long day, I felt it was time to indulge in conversation. I had heard all these good things about President Hamilton prior to our dessert, but I figured that they couldn't all be true, nobody is

perfect. However, I was very surprised to find out how close he is to being a perfect leader.

We talked about everything from investing financially in stocks, to investing in students and the university. I was also given the opportunity to discuss some ethical issues regarding my position as editor that I have pondered since the beginning of my tenure. It was very inspirational to get a pep talk from a General/President, who encouraged me to find the answer in my heart, and be willing to take chances and stand up for your responsibilities. And on top of all this, when there were only several students left in the room following the dessert, he refrained from leaving until I had conducted an interview with him and had asked all the questions I needed to ask.

Some might say that having dessert with the president of a university isn't that big of a deal, even if you are a student. The experience that I had was truly enlightening because I got to talk with President Hamilton as the leader of our university, but more important, I had the opportunity of connecting with him as a very respectful individual and person. I can honestly say that because of this encounter, I now have a greater respect for the university and its mission because of the integrity President Hamilton has shown me personally. He told me during our conversation that he doesn't get as much of an opportunity to interact with students as he would like. So if you have the chance to meet President Hamilton, I highly encourage you to take the time to introduce yourself and to thank him for his hard work and dedication to making this a better university for us all. He is truly a man of action who is willing to stand up for students rights, and I thank him for being that type of leader.

Letter to the Editor: Lessons learned by former reporter

To get a friend to listen to you about something that just happened, it is best to tell the outcome right away. Follow quickly with the juicier, more important detail. And remember, it helps to know when to quit talking.

You can learn this from Kirk McAllister, advisor for *Whalesong*. He can teach you to tell stories. But it requires risk on your part. To truly benefit from his class means taking on serious, controversial issues. You quickly realize that "serious" and "controversial" are always locked in a lover's embrace.

You will be astounded at how different this is from your other classes. First you must interview people who disagree, maybe dislike one another. And you must ask questions that enable you to make sense of their subject. You will enter that shadow world of doubt where you begin wondering why you suddenly see merit to both sides of an issue.

Then you must take what you have learned and create a news story that retells both sides. And the people you interview will look to see if you have quoted them accurately.

If so, they will be impressed. They will be even more impressed if you have written the story in a way that makes sense of their argument, rather than burying that "once in a lifetime" quote they thought up while talking to you.

The biggest reward will not be the grade from the instructor, but from *Whalesong* readers on campus who say, "I always wanted to find out what the fuss was all about. Now I know."

Another reward is when someone you interviewed says, "Thanks for presenting my side fairly."

It is surprising how often both sides will. That is because most people firmly believe if both sides are told fairly, everyone will finally see how obviously right they are and how dead wrong the other person is.

Now about those grades. Mr. McAllister greatly rewards people who come to his class to take risks. He knows from personal experience as a reporter that time spent interviewing and researching is time you don't have to spend dream up memorabile phrasing.

While working on a story for the *Whalesong*, you might feel panic as you begin to write a story for the next issue's deadline. Relax, tell the outcome right away, and reveal the juicy stuff first.

It is probably the biggest lesson I learned during my college career. You should try it.

Larry Hurlock
Former *Whalesong* reporter

Eagle Festival '99

By Dave Perry
Whalesong Reporter

I awoke early at the Portage Cove campsite in Haines, to hear a Forest Service man outside my tent ranting about how we were camping illegally. One of my fellow campers politely told him we had arrived late and didn't realize we were camping in a closed park. He took pity on us and informed us of a site about a half-mile down the road. We thanked him, packed our stuff and headed to the new site, hoping to set up and catch some events at the eagle festival.

So we trooped to the site, not knowing the ranger guy was spatially impaired. The site was at least three miles from our present point, but we trucked it nonetheless. We arrived at Battery Point shortly before dark and frantically set up our site, trying not to be blown away by the gale force winds. Tired of tin foods, we hiked back to Haines for food that had actual expiration dates. We ate angel hair noodles and marinara sauce at the Bamboo Room, a homey little eatery in the heart of booming downtown Haines. We hoped to find a randy club afterwards, but alas Haines has none of these. We did poke our heads into a dodgy little place called the Fogutter. A bit later we hiked (again) to the campsite for some much-needed sleep. We all decided it was in our best interest to actually do some eagle related activities the next day.

We spotted a ride back into town the next day (thanks again Zan) and attended the lengthy Eagle releasing ceremony. It was a special event for all the people from Haines and for all those just there for the weekend. An eagle is a spectacular creature and looking

see Eagles page 4

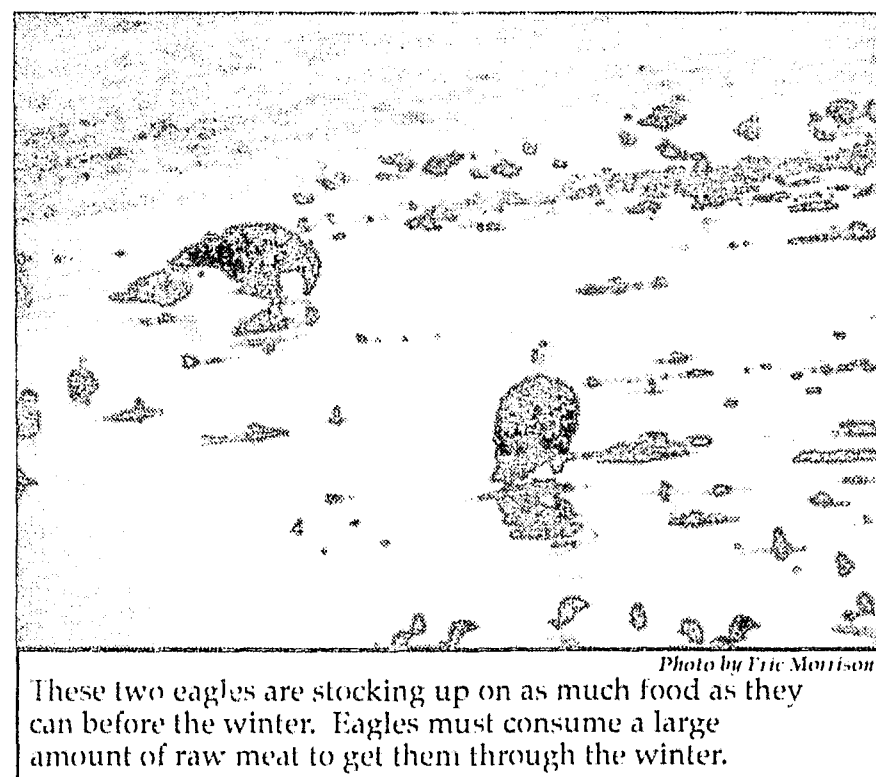


Photo by Eric Morrison

These two eagles are stocking up on as much food as they can before the winter. Eagles must consume a large amount of raw meat to get them through the winter.

Before the bell rings at school A letter to all students, faculty, and administration

By Michael Howard
Whalesong Reporter

Recently I made a phone call to Columbine High School in Colorado to do a story for *Whalesong*. I must admit that my heart wasn't entirely in the right place. I had delusions of grandeur as I hoped to do the greatest story ever written in the history of the *Whalesong*. It wasn't until I was bumped by the Columbine media department for bigger media groups such as ABC News and Newsweek, that I realized I was trying to exploit the tragedy of 11 murdered children for my own personal gain.

Thomas Paine once said that those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it. The Columbine shootings have caused people to question their freedom to bear arms. Every time I turn on the television I hear someone saying we should banish guns, that they are killing our children. In case the reader is wondering about whether or not I have ever shot a gun, the answer is, "No." Nor do I have children for that matter. However, I believe in undergoing the fatigue of supporting my freedom. Our founding fathers placed in the second amendment the right to bear arms. The intent wasn't so we could hunt ducks with an AK47 or so we could kill each other because we don't agree with the situation we are in. They instituted the amendment

so people like Teddy Roosevelt and my grandfather could enjoy the benefits of nature. Most importantly our founding fathers gave us this right to stand up against false government.

Please don't misunderstand. I'm not telling you to go out and buy weapons. I have been shot at and seen people die, yet I still choose to stay away from guns. My reasoning for staying away from them, however, is because I don't trust myself to not do something stupid. It is not guns that are the danger; it is the people using them.

I commend each of you who buy a gun to protect you and your family. I commend each of you who look your children in the eyes and tell them that you will never let anything or anyone hurt them. If you believe that guns are the prevention then that is between you and your family. What I don't commend you on is placing that gun under your pillow, up in your closet, or in your "secret" hiding place out in your study. You may be the most educated person on the planet when it comes to guns but your children and even some of your friends are not. The danger you place the people you love in by making these grievous errors can lead to a life threatening mistake. Lock your guns up, or at least make it so only you are able to get to it. Make it so difficult for someone to get your guns, that it makes Fort Knox seem like a cakewalk.

Parents stand up and scream at the idea

of their children having access to condoms. They turn different shades of red when they hear that the school system is trying to teach their children about sex. They say their children are not ready for that kind of responsibility, yet they have no problem with their children going on a family outing to the rifle range to fire off a few rounds. If this makes sense to you as parents, I'm in no position to tell you that you are wrong. But just as you want your child to be educated and mature enough before their first sexual encounter, the same rules apply for guns. The past few years have shown us that our children are not educated or mature enough to handle a handgun.

Guns in schools have brought new issues to the table. Our children now have to watch what they wear, say, and even write. If a child wears black to school they are seen as private and troubled. Now if children wear trench coats they are seen as suspicious. Have we gone too far? Can we tell which children will commit crimes based upon what their favorite colors are to wear to school? I don't remember the "bad kids" in high school doing anything worse than any of the jocks did. I find it hard to believe that the answer to violence in school is to wear brighter colors and stamp out being different. That makes about as much sense as Al Gore being the inventor of the Internet.

I did not write this letter with the intent

to offend anyone. I did not write it so people could write to the editor of *Whalesong* and ridicule something other than the horoscopes. I wrote it in the hope that people might see that the world doesn't have to be as bad as the media would like them to think. There is nothing wrong with a gun being a great recreational tool. Notice, however, that I wrote tool and not toy. Many children cannot decipher the difference between the two, but you can. Our children have earned the right to be young and innocent and it is our job to protect their innocence as long as we can. If a child wears a black trench coat to school it doesn't mean he is going to take out the second grade math class, it probably means he is trying to discover his identity. You can not prevent your children from getting hurt, but you can instill good morals inside of them.

I realize that as I close my letter I don't have enough experience in life to provide you with a fitting end. When I find myself in this position, I like to turn to my favorite philosopher, Robert Fulghum. I believe Fulghum said it best when he wrote, "Things never were 'the way they used to be.'" Things never will be "the way it's going to be someday." Things are always just the way they are for the time being. And the time being is always in motion." God bless, and remember, this is just one mans opinion.

Quit quitting and finally quit

By Rob Roy McNamara
Whalesong Ad. Manager

I am a former smoker and I know how liberating it feels to no longer appease the nicotine god every hour or so. Sacrificing my own body is not something that I enjoyed. Now others can have a reason and some support to quit smoking themselves during the Great American Smokeout.

Occurring every third Thursday in November, National Smokeout Day has served as the date to quit smoking. Even if you only quit for a day. Since it's inception in 1971, the Great American Smokeout has served as a beacon to quit smoking.

When I asked some smokers what they thought about the Great American Smokeout I got basically one answer in reply: "I don't care." One student replied, "I just wanted to smoke more." It seems that smokers are not aware what they are doing to their bodies and exactly how disgusting it is. Awareness is the key.

If the Great American Smokeout isn't enough to quit smoking there is lots of information to help you quit smoking. The homepage for the American Cancer Society (cancer.org), the organization that puts on the Great American Smokeout, is a good place for information about tobacco. There are loads of resources online or you could watch the movie *The Insider* and get the real scoop on what the tobacco industry is doing to your body. That will make you quit smoking.

Whalesong

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The University of Alaska Southeast student newspaper, *The Whalesong*, is a bi-monthly publication with a circulation of 1500 copies per issue. *The Whalesong's* primary audience includes faculty, staff, and community members. *The Whalesong* will strive to inform and entertain its readers, analyze and provide commentary on the news, and serves as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas. The staff of *The Whalesong* values freedom of expression and encourages reader response.

The Whalesong editorial staff assumes no responsibility for the content of material written by staff members. The views and opinions contained in this paper in no way represent the University of Alaska and reflect only those of the authors. The editorial staff is solely responsible for content.

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Some smoking facts to aid you in quitting

- Smoking is the most preventable cause of death in our society.
- Smoking causes one in five deaths in the United States.
- Smoking claims nearly 400,000 lives every year in the U.S.
- Smokers lose 20-25 years of their life due to smoking.
- Ninety percent of new smokers are children and teenagers.
- A non-smoker has a 30% higher risk of developing lung cancer if they are married to a smoker.
- Smoking can complicate pregnancy for women, causing stillbirths, miscarriages, and low birthweight.
- Women can also have early menopause and reduced fertility from smoking.
- Cigars are also bad for your health. They contain products such as

- Benzene (found in petroleum products)
- Arsenic
- Cadmium (found in car batteries).

If you want to find out more bad things about Tobacco, please visit the American Cancer Society's homepage at cancer.org.

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Where does all the money go? TLTR group may have the answers for you

By Sina Mertens
Whalesong Reporter

Many students have been asking this very question when looking at the fees that each student has to pay every semester for attending UAS. Of course I can't tell you where all your money went, but in case you were wondering about the \$60 you paid as a technology fee, let me help you out.

Several years ago, the American Association of Higher Education, AAHE, came up with the idea of a Teaching Learning and Technology Roundtable, the TLTR. UAS adopted this concept and formed its own committee, consisting of students, faculty, and staff, with 20 members all together. The purpose of this committee is to evaluate petitions and grant the money available to where it's most needed.

For this semester, Fall 1999, the requests pronounced by students as well as staff and faculty, both on site and at distance, added up to \$104,375 total. However, there was only \$37,897 available, all paid for with this semester's technology fee.

Although the TLTR granted the full amount, many proposals had to be neglected. Some of the petitions, such as the one for a new Art Workstation, "were completely unreasonable", said Tia Anderson, Student Senator and member of the committee. Taking into consideration the fact that the Art Department had been receiving financial support throughout the last few years, all of the \$20,000 requested by UAS Juneau students has been denied. Another reason for this decision was the students' request for art supplies. "The technology fund is not supposed to pay for paint", said Anderson. Richard Hacker, chair of the committee, agreed: "All needs were recognized", he explains, but for some of them "this was not an appropriate source of money". Several proponents had to realize that when their requests were denied by the TLTR: Juneau students who had asked for payment of employees' wages in the computer lab, as well as distant students from military sites, who don't even pay the technology fee.

"But we don't say you lose, tough luck", said Hacker, professor of law science. Each request has been taken seriously, and, if denied, referred to a different organization or source of money, which was more appropriate for the specific need.

Some proposals that were actually accepted were the pilot project for wireless networking, which received \$10,000 to purchase three networking hubs to provide wireless access to the UAS computer network in the Hendrickson building and annex, and in the Egan Library; and the lab and classroom licensing project for PhotoShop 5.5, with \$4,675 granted to cover one half of the necessary funds (Computer Services and academic programs will fund the remainder). The Media Services request for money to buy digital video editing software, digital video cameras, and digital still cameras to add to the pool of check-out equipment has been granted a total of \$11,000. Anderson's "personal favorite" was the petition from the Egan Library for a Net Library, which will provide electronic access to 8,500 current and classic academic press books and articles. \$2,700 went towards the realization of this project, which will make research a lot easier and faster for students.

In addition to that, a rotation schedule for UAS classroom display technology, a weather station, a printer for the Native and Rural Students Center, and Marine Tech workstations were considered to be generally important and therefore given at least partial funding of the total amount asked for.

The total of 18 proposals were first evaluated by a subcommittee consisting of Tia Anderson, Suzan Bryson, Pat Fitzgerald, and Darrel Love, who then gave their recommendations to the entire committee of the TLTR. On a second reading, these recommendations were adopted by a vote of 14:1.

A second cycle of project proposals will be solicited in spring 2000. For the coming semester, the TLTR would appreciate more student involvement. As of now, only three students are members of the committee. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend the meetings, which are held bi-weekly in the library. Beginning January 18, 2000, online proposal forms will be available to everyone, and petitions will be accepted until February 15. So if you would like to have more influence on where your money goes, get involved!

For further information, contact Tia Anderson, tia144@yahoo.com, or Richard Hacker, Richard.Hacker@uas.alaska.edu.

Eagles... cont. from page 2

at one up close like we were able to do is truly breathtaking. They released five eagles and each time it became more awe inspiring.

The next night we slept in the elementary school gym. Inside the stuffy parameters was a symphony of snores, teeth grinders and restless sleepers and had the ambience of a Red Cross disaster relief center.

On our final day in Haines, we went on a three-hour tour with a tour lady named Judy, who was convinced we would see a moose. We didn't. But the tour itself was great; we went 22 miles out the road and got to walk along the Eagle Preserve on the Chilkat River. She set up spotting scopes so we could see the eagles, which happened to be on the other side of the river. Judy told us we could put our point and shoot cameras up to the lens of the scope and take a picture like we had a 1000mm zoom lens. Though I thought otherwise, it did turn out to work. When the tour finished, we gave Judy a \$3 tip. She looked surprised, like she thought all college students were broke. No way, not me.

The Bald Eagle festival turned out to be a success. I know more about eagles than most of the world's population thanks to the festival, and I come away from it with a good experience and sound advice. Don't adhere to all park rangers' advice.



Photo by Eric Morrison
Dr. James Scott speaking at the eagle festival.

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Pastiche de Pilgrimage

By Dave Jackson
UAS student on exchange

Four vertical spears pierced the clouds in a clear sky. Water flies through the air, though it doesn't fall from the clouds. Blue roofing tops the steel grey spires of a medieval architecture masterpiece. Hot tea melts a plastic cup in my hand as a fountain imitates the shape the dome between the medieval spires. The dome armored in imitation gold, sits like a Christmas ornament on a pillow. Mist from the fountain sticks to our faces and dampens our clothes, as we soak in the majesty of the Hagia Sophia. Weathered red paint oozes off the historic church. Deciduous trees, untouched by autumn's decay, enfold the Blue Mosque, the Hippodrome and the park we are sitting in. Water pools on the shellacked wood of our park bench. The fountain ceases firing. A calm briefly settles over the park while I remember that people are still moving around us. The aroma of freshly wet grass mixes with religion's oldest recruitment aid, awe. Istanbul displays its holy inheritance: the largest Byzantine church ever built. And I, filled with excitement about my pilgrimage to Israel, am momentarily emptied by reverence for Constantinople.

Day 1

I awoke to the sound of jeeps, taxis and people bustling around the Citadel of David. "I am in Jerusalem," I thought as I inhaled the dusty smell of streets and exhaust. I kicked my legs up over my head and began turning my feet in clockwise circles. In the past I have had trouble with my Achilles tendon and I wanted to take good care of it so I could hike all over Israel. As I stretched out my heel I reflected on the previous night's travel.

Turkish airport security had confiscated a fork from my carryon luggage. I sweat some bullets while they checked my passport and ticket. I wasn't concerned about losing the fork. I was concerned that the fork had been, uh, "borrowed" from Turkish Airways and I wasn't quite ready to receive the traditional Arab punishment for my sin. I never saw the fork again and I almost didn't get my luggage. I noted that on my pilgrimage it was only fitting that I experienced instant karma.

After thoroughly stretching I climbed the stairs to the roof of the hostel to survey the Old City of Jerusalem. The Petra Hotel featured a 300-degree view of the old city complete with the Dome of the Rock, The Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Citadel of David. I said good morning to the campers on the roof that were enjoying their Australian breakfast of Nutellia and Maramite on white bread slices. I wondered if they were here soul searching too.

We paid for our room for the next night and embarked on our journey through the streets of Jerusalem. The tiny shops under the covered streets crammed together to form one blur of knick-knacks; beads, postcards and Arabian drums intermingled with fresh produce, juice carts and felaful vendors. Christians cut their way through the endless hordes of religious paraphernalia carrying crosses along the Via Delarose (The fabled path that Christ took while he carried the cross.) Muslim women, covered head to foot and wrist to ankle, totted bags and children with them and beggars relentlessly assaulted our pity. We passed through the third metal detector of the day and had our bags courtesy rummaged through for bombs. Then proceeded to the Wailing Wall, the holiest of Jewish sites.

Faithful Jews and tourists filled courtyard in front of the Wailing Wall, the only remaining piece of the temple of King Solomon. My roommate, Larry, and I paused to watch the perpetual Barmitzvah and the rocking Orthodox Jewish men before donning complimentary yamikas and entering the sacred area. After watching other, non-Jewish tourists step up to the wall and pray I took my turn. Laying my hands and head on the wall, I searched for the feeling of God emanating from the wall. I prayed. I waited. I prayed again. I waited. I watched a young Jewish boy (now a man by Jewish tradition) struggle under the weight of a giant, ornate, Torah, which he was expected to carry the 100 meters along the length of the wall.

My roommate and I sat in one of the chairs by the wall and watched mothers throw candy to their sons. Fathers lifted their sons and paraded about with their young man on their shoulders. Orthodox Jews, dressed in all black, stuffed prayers in the wall. According to the Jewish clergy, prayers stuffed in the wall have a greater chance of being answered. 30 Israeli soldiers wearing green fatigues and M-16s strapped passively to their backs walked up to the wall and prayed.

Day 2

My tired body groaned in rebellion to the first 50 meters of the hike. "Oh come on legs you used to do 6 miles a day, plus a mile before stretching." I was happy to

be off the bus. The constant rocking induces an unrelenting hypnotic sleep. "Look. See that rock up there" I began bargaining with my body, "We'll take a break there, stretch and enjoy the view."

I was a bit upset at our driver. The tour we signed up for promised the 2:30 wake-up would give enough time to hike 450 meters to the top of Masada before sunrise. The sun was coming up; we were at the bottom. "Its OK. Its OK, I'm on vacation." I tried to comfort myself. The sweat forming on back was actually helping.

Arriving at the predetermined resting point, I refreshed myself with a long pull of water from my Camel Bag. Wiping the sweat of my face, and feeling more a wake, I looked out over the Israeli landscape. As my eyes traced the canyons carved by water thorough sedimentary rock, I started feeling the power of Israel. My spirit swelled in recognition of the power greater than myself, nature. Hmmm, ahhh! I drank in the smell of the mountain air and the Dead Sea. I sat, gathered myself and felt my mind let go of all thoughts save observations of the moment. The Sun poked through the clouds.

Fifteen minutes later my thighs were burning. The sun had hidden behind a cloud 10 minutes earlier but had infused me with a "I think I can" attitude. "Ooh feel that burn! Push

The fading amber rays cast long shadows with asphodels through the rocks where the Christ's disciples heard him preach.

through the burn! Big mountain Big mountain! No Achilles, No Achilles!" I was very concerned about my tendon starting to ache. I previously consigned myself to a loan policy with my Achilles tendon that said "You can cripple me when I'm older but no matter what get me through Israel." (I said almost the same thing to my student loan officer.) But I was paying the interest on my loan as it incurred by stretching and rubbing Tiger Balm on my calves twice a day. So far, so good.

Rounding a corner, and ascending another flight of stairs I passed through a gateway that marked the entrance of the Masada fortress. I read a disenheartening poem by Joseph Falvius posted by the gate that talked about the hellish nature of the "Snake Gate Path" I had just climbed. "Good thing you didn't read that at the bottom of the hill" I said to myself as I looked around. "My god it's pretty up here!" I said out loud.

"Yes" I thought to myself "My God, nature. It is pretty up here."

Day 3

Wet sand slipped between my toes. A calm dug under my heel. The surface of the water made a collar around my ankle. Star light stained my retinas. My skin shivered from an earlier, perhaps blasphemous, nude dip in the water. I stood, like a reed, 30 feet off the shore, with Larry in the Sea of Galilee. I stood, alone, with company and alone with my thoughts.

Earlier that evening I sat on the Mount of the Beattitudes and watched the sunset. The light dimmed to darkness on the mount of Christ's greatest teachings. The fading amber rays cast long shadows with asphodels through the rocks where the Christ's disciples heard him preach.

I saw death at the mount of Christ's resurrection.

Day 4

We woke early the next morning to catch the sunrise. Our hostel manager was a little upset about being woken up before dawn, but he had agreed to do it the night before. After a 30-minute bike ride, we found a rocky beach. Some dogs greeted us with their barks but

they but were friendly when we pet them. They escorted us through a cloud of gnats to our seats for the morning opera. The sun, like a slow steady intensifying trumpet, built light behind the mountains. Timpani played a little rumble as the tenor, Helios, rose over the eastern mountains. His voice queued the sopranos, the aquarian birds, to begin their morning arriaid. The sea's lapping kept time as we soaked in the melody of the site of with sound. We observed the harmony of life, resurrection, the birth of a new day.

Then we sat and chilled in the raising heat of the morning.

A kayak skimmed across the gelatinous surface of the water. The sun minted gold coins in the dimpled water's mold. Birds played tag above water and below. Larry and I walked down the beach then sat at the head of the Jordan River. Larry went for a swim while I photographed a dragonfly and some birds on the Sea.

Day 5

I am a skeptical believer. I have visited some of the "holiest places on earth." But I have yet to be rocked by the "power of God." Still, I have felt the beauty and the wonder of it's power before, subtle, and comforting, warm, like the memory of a friend. Perhaps what it is and what I search for are different things.

Once I thought I wanted to be a monk. At the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (the church over Christ's tomb) I watched the Franciscan monks go through their routine: incense, candles, Latin more incense more candles more Latin. What did they do before incense candles and Latin?

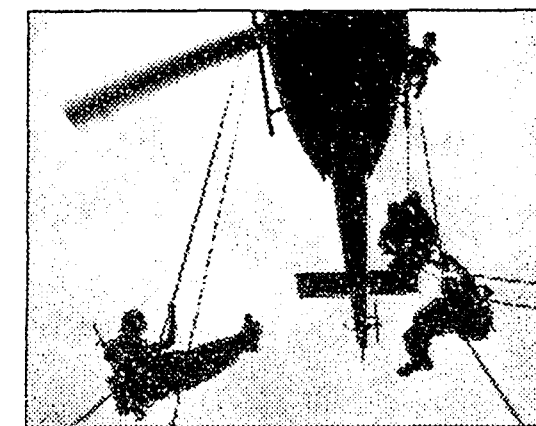
Day 6

"There are none so blind as those that do not wish to see." A young Jewish man shared this "lesson" at Rabbi Machlis's Shabbot dinner. He then proceeded to dissertate on how Abraham's fear of God had allowed him to see god. "Now I know you are a God fearing man" the young scholar quoted for the Torah. I turned off at that point. I can only listen to five minutes of Oral Roberts at a time.

When it came my turn to speak, I stood and shared the experiences from my travels with the guests. "I have traveled all over Israel. I have laid my hands and head on the Western Wall and prayed. I have sunk my feet and meditated in the Sea of Galilee. I have bathed in the Jordan River. All of these holy places are meaningless if you do not have God in your heart. And here, here in this room, people surround me with God in their heart. And this fills me."

The "holy" places on earth are just places. Beautiful places, some, but just places. It takes the individual; it takes the believer to find them holy. Some find the Wall a holy place; some find the Dome of the Rock holy. I found a holy place at Rabbi Machlis's house, a holy place in the kindness of strangers.

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Professor dives into work

By Cindy Triebel
Whalesong Reporter

Assistant professor of marine biology Sherry Tamone dove right into her work when she arrived at UAS in August, collecting crabs from Auke Bay to Berners Bay. As a marine research biologist, scuba diving goes with the job. In fact, Tamone hopes scuba diving also becomes a regular part of her students' work.

Tamone, together with UAS biologists Beth Mathews, Brendan Kelly and Ginny Eckert, who will arrive at UAS from University of California, Santa Barbara next semester, is working to further develop the UAS marine biology undergraduate program.

Tamone, a physiologist with a specialty in crustaceans, came to UAS from the San Francisco Bay area. "I saw a job for an animal physiologist with an emphasis in marine invertebrates and it was like it was written for me so I applied for the position," she said. "I was teaching at the time in Sonoma County. It was a non-tenured position and this was a tenured opportunity. So I applied for it, came up and fell in love with Juneau. It reminds me somewhat of Puget Sound where the trees meet the ocean. Just a beautiful place for biology."

Tamone has had an interest in marine life since growing up in California. She attended high school in San Francisco, completed an undergraduate degree in biochemistry from San Francisco State University in 1984, and a doctorate in endocrinology from UC Davis in 1993. Tamone did her post-doctoral research on the dungeness crab at the Bodega Marine Lab in Bodega Bay, Calif.

Her original degree was done in biochemistry thinking it would be more lucrative than marine biology. In graduate

school, she used the biochemistry to study hormones. She was in the field of human reproduction and endocrinology and didn't



Sherry Tamone takes a break. Photo by Cindy Triebel

like it. That is when Tamone found her niche in crustacean reproductive physiology.

With training in chemistry and hormone research, Tamone moved toward the realm of marine biology, her original area of interest.

"It was very exciting for me because I got to work where I wanted to work, in the marine environment with my specific interests of chemistry, hormones and physiology. I felt very lucky that way. I became a physiologist with a specialty in crustaceans and that was not what I intended to do but it has worked out well," she said.

It has worked out well for the UAS staff also, according to marine mammal specialist Brendan Kelly. "We are nothing less than thrilled to have Sherry Tamone with us. She is a tremendous asset to our program," he said.

Tamone says there is a great deal of support for learning about physiology and animals in the marine environment. She likes that UAS works with a variety of different agencies such as the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, USGS, The National Marine Fisheries Service and UAF faculty. "There is a lot of potential and

it is refreshing to work with such a collaborative group of people," said Tamone.

Having taught classes of 50 students, Tamone enjoys the small classes, eager learners and lecturing a stone's throw from the real life laboratory. Students pluck study subjects right out of their home for awhile and replace them at the end of class.

Teaching and research require time and energy. There can always be a better lecture, a better handout, and a better-written exam. Tamone feels that research is what makes a good teacher. She continues to study crabs, work in the lab, read. "I wouldn't be able to do this if I didn't like teaching because it's a lot of work, and the pace is steady," Tamone said.

As the marine biology program develops a diving facility would be ideal and is, at the moment secondary to the curriculum. Students will need diving accreditation. Also, there are certain requirements that must be maintained every year to be insured by the university such as a physical, equipment check, CPR, etc.

Tamone is a working mom these days. The busy family schedule is made manageable with husband Robert helping at home. Kids Benjamin, six years and Amalia, four, spend hours with their folks exploring area beaches, hiking and learning.

"My kids help me collect crabs I have intertidal kids," she said.

"Our son always wants to show me his little collections. He's really looking forward to being a scuba diver. He is such a helper."

We used to set out pots in Bodega Bay to catch small crab. Benjamin would go with me and we'd pull up the pots and he'd gush, "Mom, we got some!" Benjamin could see the differences between the crabs. The kids are excited to go skiing. They feel like Alaska is another country because they ask if they will ever visit their homeland again, but they have integrated well and we are really enjoying Juneau," said Tamone.

NWSLC...

Cont. from page 1

Not only did the students of Alaska get to network with student leaders from the Lower 48, more importantly they got the opportunity to interact and connect with the diverse students from the U of A. "I felt a bond between the students from Alaska that were at the conference, that will increase their ability to effectively benefit students through the coalition of student leaders," said Horst.

Most students at the conference were looking for different information, and diverse ideas to help them more effectively represent the U of A. UAF Student Body President Stacey Banks was looking for, "Skills that are going to win students battles on campus," and "training and skills to help all the student governments in the state."

All the students who attended the NWSLC gained different knowledge and will use the knowledge they learned in different ways. Vice President of UAS in Ketchikan, Dave Husted said, "My goal is to teach the knowledge that I have learned at the NWSLC to other students at my campus. In teaching and empowering those students, I hope to make our campus a more active learning facility in the UA system."

Alaska was strongly represented at the NWSLC, by President Hamilton as well as all the different and diverse campus leaders that the U of A has to offer. The director of the Oregon Student Association announced to the entire populous of the conference on the final day, "Alaskan students have been the heart and soul of this conference." In one way or another, the students, faculty and administration of the University of Alaska system will all benefit from the student leaders experiences at the NWSLC.

Surf Alaska Or the rest of the world

By Sina Mertens
Whalesong Reporter

UAS students with an itch to surf the Internet can now satisfy their urge with the help of a new downtown business - SurfAlaska, located in the Emporium Mall next to Heritage Coffee. Here in soggy Southeast Alaska, people understand the need for thrilling indoor activities, especially this time of year, and SurfAlaska is trying to fill some of that niche.

Billed as an "Internet and Gaming Center", it is not your usual Internet café where you pay a horrendously high fee and burn your tongue and fingers on some weak coffee while you are waiting for a computer to get going. Things are different here. You can go into Heritage, buy an incredibly tasty cup of coffee, then stroll next door to SurfAlaska and log onto the information highway or enter the fascinating and imaginative world of computer games. All you have to do now is warm up your fingers on the cup and speed up your brain with caffeine, and you are in for some high-speed action on the cyber-autobahn. And, thanks to an agreement between SurfAlaska and the UAS Student Government, the thrills are cheap. The student discount rate is \$3.00 off the usual member rate.

"We are still in our infancy", admits Lorene Kappler, co-owner of SurfAlaska. "But we hope that students will benefit from our efforts". Kappler, who is also a student of the Web Page Design class at UAS and a former instructor herself, promises "to monitor how well our computers perform and serve the needs of our customers", so the equipment can be upgraded accordingly. Furthermore, one-hour seminars are planned in order to introduce customers to the nearly unlimited possibilities at SurfAlaska.

There are 10 computer stations available, which are connected to the WorldWideWeb via a 512-cable modem. This speedy connection, along with the help of the professional staff and the availability of premium hardware and software, allows you to do some serious working. You can even check your UAS e-mail account to keep in touch with your instructors. But don't forget about all the cool equipment and the excellent variety of games provided by SurfAlaska. The best time to talk, fight, enjoy, or test games are the Gaming Nights, which are scheduled every other Thursday. Those special events are free for all UAS students, and a great time is guaranteed.

So if you are discovering syndromes of cabin fever, or if you are simply bored to death, you should stop by SurfAlaska on of these days. Or at least check out their WebPage, at www.SurfAlaska.net. It's got enough information on there "to get your feet wet", says Kappler with a smile. And isn't that what we came here for, after all?

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Chasing the white rabbit

By Dianne Slater
Whalesong Columnist

You recall the story about the White Rabbit, a character in Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865)." As Alice sat on the bank of the river beside her sister who was reading a book, she pondered on that hot day whether the pleasure of making a daisy chain would be worth the trouble of getting up and picking daisies (life should be so simple). Suddenly, scurrying past her frantically was a White Rabbit with pink eyes (undoubtedly due to lack of sleep). He held a watch in his paw that he took from his waistcoat-pocket, looking at it, he mumbled to himself, "Oh dear! Oh dear! I'm late! I'm late!" (Perhaps he could have used a software program in time management). Alice takes off across the field chasing the silly rabbit and follows him into the rabbit-hole. The rabbit-hole was like a tunnel that goes on for quite some distance, then dips suddenly downward. Alice finds herself falling deeper and deeper into the hole without giving any thought to how she would get out again. Starting to sound a bit familiar? Suddenly everything piles up and there seems no way to get through the maze. This happens more than we care to admit in our academics, we become overburden and find that we are falling into a deep hole.

Having burned the midnight oil countless times, like many of you, I have this special effects alarm clock (borrowed out of desperation) that jolts my body out of bed like a lighting bolt (you do what you have to do). At 6 a.m., the engineer's voice loudly shouts out, "Hey! Wake Up! Wake Up!" The replica of the 1890's locomotive comes complete with bells and whistles, having all the sounds and affects coming down the railroad line. The obtrusive noise rings loudly in my ears (a fond memory that woke me abruptly each morning as a child). As I stretch across the bed—my hand races against time—to shut the alarm off before the annoying voice shouts its message a second time. Lying motionless in bed, slowly I doze off only to awaken in a panic, scolding myself. "Oh no, I'm gonna be late (again) for class (instructors' pet peeve)! I hate when I do that!" Heading for the bathroom, I hit the light switch and as I glance at my reflection in the mirror, I notice the "pink eye syndrome". I hear many students saying they are affected by these very same issues, and say they need more hours in the day to get it all finished.

To inspire some serious action (it's about time) before midterms begins, there are ways to survive this maddening chase in the maze of time. Students who find themselves scurrying about chasing their "white rabbits" are saying there are not enough minutes and hours in the day to do it all, academics, work, family—let alone having a social life.

When you find yourself asking these questions: "Where do I find time to sit down to eat? How can I get to bed at a reasonable hour and still complete my assignments? How do I stop rushing from home to class?" If you are struggling with these symptoms, and being repeatedly tardy and turning in late assignments and not prepared for class, the cause is most likely a little bit procrastination combined with mental and physical distractions.

Getting enough rest plays an immense role in learning. Schedule a time when you will quit for the evening and say enough is enough. Aim for at least six hours of sleep. Remember to drink plenty of water. Drinking your way to better grades is no joke. Since the brain is made up of a higher percentage of water than any other organ, dehydration takes over rapidly.

Dehydration is a common problem and is linked to poor learning. To be at our very best performance level, the body needs at least 8-10 glasses a day for optimum health. You will experience more energy. A loss of concentration, attentiveness and sluggishness will set in when you cheat your body of what it needs.

Proper nutrition is also another issue that students face. Getting the needed nutrients to enable the brain to concentrate and study more effectively requires eating breakfast every day. This helps improve mental and physical performance eliminating most health problems and helps your body function at its peak. Try drinking fruit juices like V-8, a protein shake made with low fat milk, or low fat yogurt. This is better than skipping meals. Remember that drinking plain water is better than soda pop. Blood sugar levels spike when you drink soda pop and caffeine filled beverages, which causes the body to overcompensate to restore the blood sugar levels back to normal and usually makes the person feel even more sluggish than before drinking the beverage.

Avoiding heavy meals before studying. In a previous article, Brain food for thought, you may remember that a clogged stomach is a clogged mind. The high fat meal causes the red blood cells to become sticky and clump together, clogging up your circulatory system, resulting in a tired mind and body causing an inability to concentrate clearly. You need more blood flow to the brain to have clear thinking and reasoning ability. To optimize your performance both mentally and physically eat a wide variety of foods.

Now that you have prioritized rest and diet into your schedule, plan to prioritize your prime study (the time of day when you are at your optimum best) time, which can best be determined by observing when you get the most work accomplished. Mornings are best. Modeling yourself after the learning style like that of the N-Ts, the intuitive and thinker temperament (Table Dancer versus Einstein, found in the last issue of the Whalesong). The N-Ts are described as those students who prefer studying in the early mornings, they tend to make the best grades and be the best students, and be on time to class. However, if you find it easier to study in the afternoon or at night, do whichever time you feel the most alert. You can best determine your prime time study by observing the results by higher grades or by how much you accomplish. Burrowing yourself, into yet a deeper hole will only further your frustrations and cause

you to become overwhelmed. This generally leads to procrastination.

We all have time-wasters and may wish time could stand still, however, time passes on even as it does in Alice in Wonderland and you have to just make the best use of it. Having a timepiece is obviously a good idea so you can arrive to your class on time, being more relaxed and better prepared as a student, invest in a simple Timex, they are not that expensive and they are likewise dependable. Hard to wake up in the mornings, Taku Taxi has a free wake up service. I have, on occasion, used them. The compulsive urge to answer the phone will get you out of bed. You could even find a novelty alarm clock that talks to you. If really desperate, I recommend "engine number nine".

To protect your study time, begin within your personal environment, the space where you study. Make sure your study environment is properly organized. If your space is disorganized, the muddle will only overwhelm you. Take time to rid your work area of unnecessary clutter by getting rid of things. Find a study time when it is most quiet and people are not around to interrupt or distract you. Keep items like dictionary, pens and pencils, books, computer paper, class schedule, instructor names and phone numbers in one place,

then you won't waste time looking for what you need. "Peak Performance," a how-to book about how to succeed in college, written by Sharon K. Ferret, is another fine example full of ideas you can use that is helpful in planning time management.

Unlogging the mental distractions that clutter your mind, other tasks that need to be done, can best be eliminated by keeping a pen and notepad beside you and write down those thoughts that interrupt your study, dealing with them at another time when you can contemplate matters more easily. Bull sessions are so easy to get into, take yourself away from friends, TV, radio that add to the distraction, and plan time around higher priorities, then include social time. "The College Learning and Study Skills" by Longman & Atkinson have more ideas to guide you, and it can be checked out at the learning center.

Identifying and adapting these personal health concerns, and environment distractions combined with the tips given, will help you become a more successful college student. Once you begin to eliminate mental and physical distractions, the maze of madness, you will have control. Now you can optimize your time with a written time management plan, blocking in times to accommodate your schedule and be a more successful student.

Student Friendly Recipe

Budget meal in only 20 minutes
Healthy Greek Vegetarian Dish

Great for needed energy and ideal for those concerned about a budget.

This Greek dish is tasty, but also low in fat, very nutritious, a complete protein includes your (enzymes) raw vegetables and is a quick to fix meal. The combination of ingredients will surprise your taste buds and don't forget to invite a few friends over; this will feed about four easily.

3 cups water and 1 _ cups rice
5 cups water and 1 _ cups lentils
3 bay leaves
1 or 2 tomatoes
1 cucumber
1 small onion
1 head of lettuce
Ranch Style Dressing (low fat if desired)
Salt (to taste)

Start with 3 cups water. Bring water to a boil and add 1 _ cups of rice. Reduce heat to medium and cover pan with a lid. Cook 20 minutes 'til fluffy. You will end up with approximately 3 cups rice.

In another pan, start with 5 cups water and 1 _ cups lentils, 3 bay leaves—bring to boil and cook for 20 minutes. Add water as needed while boiling. Some liquid will remain. Salt to taste.

While rice and beans are cooking, cut up 1 small onion and sauté in _ tsp olive oil, or any other oil.

Shred one head of lettuce.

To serve, place rice on plate first, next top with lentils, sauté onions—add shredded lettuce, chopped tomatoes and chopped cucumber. Finish off with ranch style salad dressing. This is a budget—20-minute meal in one.

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Satirical Horoscopes

Editor's note: I was searching through the archives of the Whalesong and came across a collection of horoscopes from 1993, that were written by Johnny Mac and EWTF. I think that they are very interesting and good satirical horoscopes. I decided to reprint them because I was curious what the Student Body would think.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21) – You are in for a bleak, blustery day; it's a perfect time to accuse someone of heresy. Have them cast out and sent to the wilderness. So what if they aren't guilty – they probably weren't predestined for salvation like you were anyway. So why should they be allowed to graze their stock on your commons.

Capricorn (April 20 – May 20) – Honey, get that mustache waxed and get gussied-up for a big night of country line dancing. Anything made from acid-washed denim will make you look like those classy women on "Hee-Haw." Find a tender truck driver that will show you his "Achy-Breaky Heart."

Aquarius (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19) – Why not oppress someone today? Aren't you tired of being blamed for being rich, white, male, etc. So what if you are a selfish bastard responsible for the exploitation of poor people, women, gays, minorities, and the environment – does that make you a bad person?

Pisces (Feb. 20 – Mar. 20) – You are feeling very spiritual today. Why not lobby for some prayer in school. Maybe if we had some good traditional Christian values, Mr. Draft Dodger-Pot Smoker-Womanizer would be back in Arkansas and not in the White House.

Aries (Mar. 21 – Apr. 20) – Alas, it seems that the stable boy has been taking liberties with the livestock! Sadly, he seems to have been gaining knowledge of the mare, a cow, two goats, five sheep, two calves and a turkey. For these fou[w]l deeds thou will have to execute and bury the animals as per Leviticus 20. 15. Likewise should you punish the practitioner of such lewd practices. Kill him after you have executed his loved ones. Let 'I love ewe' not enter the parishioners' vocabulary.

Taurus (Apr. 21 – May 21) – So what if you're hard to tell from women, you're a man. You're just upset by the hegemonic male power structure that makes it hard to express your sensitivity. You need to take a swim in Lake You. Affirm your worth in the mirror for hours.

Gemini (May 22 – June 21) – Methinks that it's time to burn those witches that you convicted last fortnight! You had a fair trial (she weighed more than a duck, didn't she?) It's fire time! Remember, nothing burns witches better than more witches! Ask the Reverend's daughters if they've had any more "visions." That's evidence enough for me!

Cancer (June 22- July 23) – It's time for some budget cuts, may we suggest education and welfare? That money could be better spent on the military or mining subsidies. Hell, if those people are on welfare, it's about time for them to pull themselves up by their bootstraps.

Leo (July 24 – Aug. 23) – We see a possibility of romance in your future. Yes! There will be a family reunion and that is a great opportunity to meet girls! Be aware of what the local age of consent is. Be careful about first cousins. It's a good way to breed banjo prodigies, but illegal in some states. Start a family and practice the "three I's": illiteracy, ignorance and inbreeding.

Virgo (Aug. 24 – Sept. 23) – Today seems like a good day to unwind – why not sneak into the forest and do a little clear-cutting. Gas up the Stihl and buzz away! The damn things just obstruct the view anyway. And remember environmentalist blood is a real good chain lubricant. You will be the first person to ever be fired from a construction job for your appearance.

Libra (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23) – Carry the baby all day today and let her know that you understand the spiritual oppression that your penis represents. If she says she has PMS – believe her.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22) – Plan on nurturing today. Watch your pets, they may be channeling deceased French monarchs. Fiber and hugs are important. Wear pastels. Talk about your feelings.

Movie Review 007

By Eric Morrison
Movie Junkie

Who is your favorite James Bond? I've been asked this question many times in my life, but until I saw, *The World Is Not Enough*, Pierce Brosnan wasn't even in consideration. I always thought that Roger Moore was the most suave and badass Bond. But after seeing Brosnan pimp, hustle, kick some serious ass, and use all those fancy gadgets that the MI6 headquarters creates for him, Brosnan now holds a tie in my book for the best Bond.

This movie is far superior to the previous two Bond movies in which Brosnan starred. It has more action, more ladies, more explosions, and has only one martini that you don't even see him drink, talk about political correctness. There was a stellar boat chase; a killer ski scene and even an atomic sub that threatened to blow up half of Europe. With James Bond on the job, what do you think happened? Yes, he got the girl and lived humpily ever after. Or at least until he goes on his next mission and meets another lady, or two, or as in this movie, three.

This movie is definitely not for the conservative at heart, or not necessarily for the avid James Bond enthusiast. I have only liked a handful of the Bond movies myself, but this one sure did hit the spot.

So if your looking for a ladies man who kicks some ass, wears suave suits and always wins, then I suggest you go see, *The World Is Not Enough*. And in this movie Christmas comes more then once a year, and you get to unwrap your presents early. Bravo!



Movie Review The Messenger

By Eric Morrison
Movie Junkie

If there has ever been a movie I have seen that most effectively displays "girl power," it has to be *The Messenger*, the story of Joan of Arc. This movie is a lot like *Braveheart*, except that the heroic and passionate leader of the oppressed people is a female. And Mila Jovavich sure does a good job portraying a passionate and heroic Joan of Arc.

In short, the story is about a young church enthusiast girl who witnesses the death/rape of her best friend/sister, and goes on a mission from God to take back France from English control. Just like *Braveheart*, there were many adversities and challenges that lead to difficult decisions and disastrous battles. One of the most thought provoking elements of this movie is Joan's feminist feelings towards war. Joan tries to bring peace through discussion prior to each battle, and it is very impressionable how much war really affects her. And when the enemies refuse her notion of peace, the prophesized legend kicks some serious butt.

There were a lot of good elements to this film, as well as some overwhelming elements. This film is definitely not for the faint of heart; there are battle scenes that graphically match the best of films. Severed limbs, decapitated heads and puddles of blood will entice those who enjoy realistic battle scenes; although these scenes may scar fragile minds. All in all the acting was exquisite, yet Jovavich displays such an effective scared and scarred victim of war, that it is almost too much to handle all the way through the movie. Another thing that was kind of overwhelming was the different uses of cinematography. The cinematography was brilliant, except it varied from scene to scene so it almost had the feel of a music video at times, then looked like a serious film and would switch back and forth which at times was confusing.

All in all I liked this film. It was the classic hero/martyr scenario, and the story is an age-old classic that has been effectively told on screen. And really the most you can ask for from a classic story, is whether or not it was effectively reproduced on film, Bravo!